This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed in view of the final

Office Action dated 22 July 2004. Responsive to that final Office Action, Claim 9

is amended to remove the potentially confusing informality noted therein by the

Examiner.

In the final Office Action, the Examiner allowed Claims 1-2 and 4-8, but

rejected Claims 9 - 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for containing

subject matter not adequately described in the Specification. The Examiner noted

that although Claim 9 depends from Claim 1, Claim 9 recites features of certain

embodiments not entirely consistent with those recited in Claim 1. On that basis,

the Examiner also objected to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) for not

showing the combination of features resulting due to the dependency of Claim 9

from Claim 1.

Accordingly, Claim 9 has been amended to independent form removing the

claim's errant dependency from Claim 1. Features generic to the embodiments

covered by both Claims are incorporated into Claim 9, such that the

inconsistencies noted by the Examiner are now removed. It is believed, therefore,

that the Examiner's concerns under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, are now

obviated, as are the Examiner's objections to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. §

1.83(a).

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It is now believed that the subject Patent Application has been placed in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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